Linking each district with KVKs

†498. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided recently to link each district of the country with Krishi Vigyan Kendra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of districts particularly of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and North Eastern Region till date where Krishi Vigyan Kendras are set up and the number of districts not having Krishi Vigyan Kendras; and

(d) by when every district in the country have a Krishi Vigyan Kendra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government have approved to link 578 rural districts (as per India 2002) of the country with Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research during Tenth Plan.

(c) The KVKs have been set up in 415 rural districts of the country including 76 of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and North-Eastern Region. There are 163 rural districts including 62 in these States, which are not having KVKs.

(d) As per the sanctioned provision total 578 KVKs are expected to be established by the end of X Plan.

Manufacture of life-saving drugs

499. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is **a** fact that the pharmaceutical companies are requesting for inclusion of a provision to protect them in the third

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi**.**

Patent Amendment Bill so that the companies manufacturing life-saving drugs need not withdraw hundreds of brands amounting to nearly Rs. 4000 crores after the Product Patent Act comes into effect from 2005;

(b) if so, the details of drugs which face threat of withdrawal; and

(c) the measures Government are taking or propose to take to protect the domestic life-saving drug manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN): (a) to (c) Legal provisions to fulfil the commitments under the TRIPs Agreement regarding the introduction of product patent in pharmaceuticals will be made after due consideration of the concerns of all the stakeholders, including the pharmaceutical industry.

Availability of milk at affordable price

500. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate milk production alongwith its growth rate in the country State-wise; and

(b) the measures taken to increase the production and to achieve the target of milk at affordable price for all the children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) State-wise milk production alongwith its growth rate in the country is given in the Statement (See below):

(b) To increase production of milk, Centrally sponsored scheme 'Integrated Dairy Development Project (IDDP)' and Central sector plan scheme 'Assistance to Cooperatives' are being implemented. The Scheme IDDP has established 53 projects in 23 States and 1 UT and has about 6.5 lakhs farmers as its members . Similarly, the scheme 'Assistance to Cooperatives' is being implemented in 24 milk unions in 11 States for revitalizing the sick dairy cooperative federations at district as well as at State level.